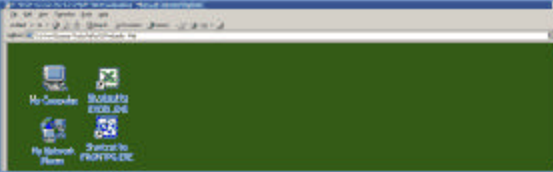


**YAHOO!** News[News Home](#) - [Yahoo!](#) - [Help](#)**AP** Ass  
PresPC REMOTE ACCESS **NEW****FREE**  
Click

Welcome, Guest

[Personalize News Home Page](#)**Yahoo! News**

Thu, Aug 07, 2003

Search for 

Search

[News Front Page](#)[Top Stories](#)[Business](#)[World](#)[Entertainment](#)[Sports](#)[Technology](#)[Politics](#)► [White House](#)[Elections](#)[Congress](#)[U.S. Government](#)[World](#)[Supreme Court](#)[Press Releases](#)[Most Popular](#)[Science](#)[Health](#)[Oddly Enough](#)[Op/Ed](#)[Lifestyle](#)[Local](#)[Comics](#)[News Photos](#)[Most Popular](#)[Weather](#)[Audio/Video](#)[Full Coverage](#)[Lottery](#)[Crosswords](#)[News for Kids](#)

Full Coverage

More about  
[Myanmar](#)**White House - AP****Bush to Sign Myanmar Sanctions Bill**

Mon Jul 28, 6:30 PM ET

 Add [White House - AP](#) to My Yahoo!

WASHINGTON - President Bush ([news](#) - [web sites](#)) signed a bill and issued an executive order on Monday to pressure rulers in the Asian nation of Myanmar to release democracy activist Aung San Suu Kyi and other political prisoners.

[AP Photo](#)

Among other things, the law bans the import of products from Myanmar, also known as Burma. The executive order freezes assets of senior Burmese officials and prohibits virtually all remittances to Myanmar.

"By denying these rulers the hard currency they use to fund their repression, we are providing strong incentives for democratic change and human rights in Burma," Bush said in a

statement.

There was only scant opposition to the bill in Congress. The House passed it on a vote of 418-2. The Senate's July 16 vote of 94-1 came a little more than a month after the military leaders of Myanmar re-arrested Suu Kyi, who was awarded the 1991 Nobel Peace Prize. They simultaneously renewed their crackdown on the pro-democracy movement she leads.

"With the stroke of his pen, the president sent a message to the entire world that we must support democracy and freedom in Burma," said Sen. Mitch McConnell ([news](#), [bio](#), [voting record](#)), R-Ky., who joined Bush in the Oval Office when the president signed the bill into law.

Since May, Burmese officials have ignored demands from around the world to release Suu Kyi and other members of her National League for Democracy and to reopen the league's offices.

Myanmar's military government blamed Suu Kyi on Saturday for the lack of democracy in the nation. In a commentary published in three state-run newspapers, Myanmar's rulers said the nation had been deprived of a

ADVERT

**Sleep**  
"Sleep  
Angel  
You'll  
Sleep Al

**QI**  
**SNOR**  
CLICK  
NI



Do you s  
other sy  
Sleep

- [Depi](#)
- [Hea](#)
- [Limb](#)
- [Weig](#)
- [Poor M](#)
- [Memory](#)

**CNN**  
**SNORING**  
**APNEA**  
Rel  
"Yes" sa

**Related News Stories**

- [Unocal on trial for Burma 'abuses'](#) BBC (Aug 1, 2003)
- [Burma angry at US sanctions](#) BBC (Jul 29, 2003)
- [Red Cross Meets Suu Kyi. Myanmar Slams Sanctions](#) Reuters (Jul 29, 2003)

parliamentary democracy because the National League for Democracy withdrew from a constitution-drafting process in 1995.

In addition to banning the import of goods from Myanmar and freezing the government's assets in America, Bush's actions expand the current ban on granting U.S. visas to Myanmar leaders and codify existing policy that opposes new international loans or technical aid to the nation. In 1997, the United States banned American companies from investing in Myanmar.

The trade ban is aimed at Myanmar exports to the United States, which totaled about \$356 million in 2002, mostly in garments. The measure also directs Secretary of State Colin Powell ([news](#) - [web sites](#)) to encourage other nations to cut off support for Myanmar's government and to help the country's democratic movement.

**Opinion & Editorials**

- [A pariah should be treated like one](#) Globe and Mail. (Aug 7, 2003)
- [Liberators Wanted](#) Seattle Weekly (Aug 6, 2003)
- [Laws of Empire](#) In These Times (Aug 3, 2003)

"U.S. imports of Burmese products have been bankrolling Burma's brutal dictatorship," said Rep. Tom Lantos, the ranking Democrat on the House International Relations Committee. "Burma's major exporters are either owned by the ruling thugs or are intricately tied to the government. This bill will hit Burma's dictators where it hurts: in their checking accounts."

Bush said the repression in Burma contributes to problems that spill over its borders — flows of refugees, narcotics trafficking and the spread of AIDS ([news](#) - [web sites](#)). He urged the Association of South-East Asian Nations to continue to impress upon the regime that its behavior goes against association standards. He praised efforts by the European Union ([news](#) - [web sites](#)) and Japan to bring democratic change to Burma.

**Feature Articles**

- [Thai-Myanmar: Twists in the roadmap](#) Asia Times Online (Aug 4, 2003)
- [Burma's Junta Starts to Sweat](#) Business Week (Jul 24, 2003)

The military seized power in 1988 and stepped in to void the 1990 elections that would have given power to Suu Kyi and her party. Suu Kyi was under house arrest from 1989 to 1995 and again for 19 months before her release in May 2002.

**Related Web Sites**

- [Myanmar Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#)
- [Myanmar Information Committee](#)
- [Daw Aung San Suu Kyi](#)

Congress considered similar legislation last year but held off after Suu Kyi was released. But on May 30 the government launched an attack on her supporters and again seized Suu Kyi, which revived the effort to impose trade sanctions.

**News Resources**

On the Net:

**Providers**

- [AP Cabinet & State](#)
- [AP White House](#)

State Department's Myanmar page: <http://www.state.gov/p/eap/ci/bm/>

Suu Kyi's Nobel Prize page: <http://www.nobel.se/peace/laureates/1991/>

**News Alerts**

- [President Bush](#)
- [Colin Powell](#)
- [AIDS](#)
- [European Union](#)
- [Sen. Mitch McConnell](#)
- [Rep. Tom Lantos](#)

 [Email Story](#)

 [Post/Read Msgs \(1\)](#)

 [Print Story](#)

**Ratings:** Would you recommend this story?

Not at all **1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5** Highly

**Avg Rating: 2.78, 9 votes**

**Services**

- [Daily Emails](#)
- [Free News Alerts](#)

**Politics Tools**

- [Register to Vote](#)

Enter Your ZIP Code to

Find a Candidate:

  
or [Search by State](#)

- [Issues & Action](#)

Scroll to select issue area

Select Issue Area	▲
Agriculture/Food	
Arts/Humanities	
Budget	
Business	
Campaigns	▼

- [Elected Officials](#)

Enter Your ZIP Code:

  
or [Search by State](#)

- [Contact The Media](#)

Enter Your ZIP Code:

  
or [Search by State](#)

Links and services provided by  
Capitol Advantage

Next Story: [U.S. Presses Biotech Food Case With EU](#) (AP)More [White House](#) Stories

- [Gov't: Hijacker Crashed Flight 93 on 9/11](#) (AP)
- [U.S. Considers Revising Its Role in Iraq](#) (AP)
- [U.S. Navy See Blimps As Anti-Terror Tool](#) (AP)
- [Ashcroft Memo Targets Lenient Sentences](#) (AP)
- [Texas Medical Co. to Correct Problems](#) (AP)

**Weekly Specials**

ADVERTISEMENT

- [Check out Toyota's quality cars, trucks and SUVs at toyota.com..](#)
- [Home Owners: Find the Lowest Refinance Rates](#)
- [Free online Mortgage Refinance Quote @ Service 1 Mortgage](#)
- [Shop & Compare for Term Life Insurance with ReliaQuote](#)
- [Can't Pay Your Bills? - Free Debt Consolidation](#)
- [Refinance NOW and GET CASH! FREE Quote!](#)
- [Planning to Sell or Buy a Home this Summer?](#)
- [Get an MBA in as little as 8 months! FREE Info!](#)
- [Term Life Insurance - save up to 70% at Intelliquote.com](#)
- [Stop Snoring Now - Sleep Better Tonight](#)

Copyright © 2003 The Associated Press. All rights reserved. The information contained in the AP News report may not be published, broadcasted, or redistributed without the prior written authority of The Associated Press.

Copyright © 2003 Yahoo! Inc. All rights reserved.

[Questions or Comments](#)[Privacy Policy](#) - [Terms of Service](#) - [Copyright Policy](#) - [Ad Feedback](#)